

EIS001635

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FROM: Sheral S. Guthrie  
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**RECEIVED**  
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RE: Draft EIS Yucca Mt. as  
Toxic Waste Repository

DATE: February 16, 2000

I am not a scientist who studies the technologies needed to carry out this plan for Yucca Mt. and who surely stresses over this scientifically unsound solution for the disposal of radioactive waste. I am not a geologist who analyzes seismic activity of the region and who like most of us in the Valley was awakened in his/her bed from an earthquake this past October. Nor am I a politician who struggles to gain the respect and belief in a governmental system that exist to protect, support and guide the people of this nation. Too often as I speak with neighbors, friends and family I hear them say "why bother to speak out because it is a done-deal and out of our control". I am writing to you as a mother, wife, homemaker and involved community person who is deeply concerned about the future of not only the Las Vegas area but our nation.

- 1 I attended the DOE public hearing 1/11/00 held here in Las Vegas. I gathered a wealth of information and listened to both sides of the debate. It appears to me that at this time the most suitable alternative is the storage of the waste on -site where it was produced until a safe, equitable and scientifically sound solution to this problem can be found. I understand that there is no easy solution yet as I imagine tons of highly toxic materials being transported across our nation to Yucca Mt. I cringe. I fear for all of us if this plan is allowed to be implemented.
- 2 In addition to potential health issues from exposure to radioactive waste I am concerned about the increased wear and tear to our highway infrastructure. My understanding is that the vehicles for transport are expected to be 220 ft. long and travel at 10 miles an hour. This surely will harm our roads, bridges and culverts, and disrupt traffic wherever they travel. Cask integrity is another concern. At this point there is only a computer simulation and no prototype. Why would you even consider the moving of such toxic materials when there isn't the technology to do this safely at this time? In another 100
- 3 years we may very well have this problem solved. Until then...store it on site where it was produced and use our current technology to make that a safer alternative to moving it across the nation.
- 4 At 50 years old I find myself thinking about where my husband and I will retire, and I wonder where our children and grandchildren will live. I could never even consider Las Vegas as a safe, secure place to make our home with the possibility of radioactive toxic waste being transported and stored just 90 miles north of us. Unlike many I do believe that the actions of an individual can bring about at some level positive results. From here I will write my political representatives, I will make the phone calls, and I will talk to my neighbors. Let us all be heard from and counted!

*Sheral S. Guthrie*